Missouri Chess Bulletin

Missouri Chess Association

www.mochess.org

Missouri's Young Masters

Grab the National Spotlight

Volume 38 Number Two—Spring 2011 Issue

Serving Missouri Chess Since 1973

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~Volume 38 Number 2 - Spring 2011~

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The Missouri Chess Bulletin is the official publication of the Missouri Chess Association, a not-for-profit organization which promotes and supports chess in Missouri. The Missouri Chess Bulletin was founded in 1973 and is published quarterly. Your letters and writings are welcome. All submissions become the property of the MCA and the MCA reserves the right to edit any and all material received. Published opinions are those of contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the MCA

From The Editor

Bob Howe

Greetings Missouri Chess Players. The Spring edition comes to you packed with information about the busy year we've had so far in 2011. I'm happy to report it looks like this will be a banner year for activities in our home state. Be sure to look over the upcoming tournaments pages and plan to attend a few of the great offerings coming your way this spring/summer, and beyond. I'm excited about the list of contributors this edition, including GM Finegold, IM Vojinoc, FM Mike Klein, Alex Marler, Al Howlett, Ken West, Martin Stahl, and Josh Goldman of Washington University.

The Waldo Odak Open recently concluded at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center. The event was named in honor of Waldo Odak, a longtime expert strength player whose been a fixture in Missouri Chess for decades. Odak recently shared that he is battling ALS, a disease commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, and the Chess Club stepped up to hold a fundraiser in his behalf. Thanks to all the players who contributed their entry fees to the tournament, their prize money, supported the GM Finegold Simul, and even made straight donations to this worthy cause. It wasn't long ago Waldo showed his chess prowess with a dramatic last round upset over Ron Luther in the 2008 Invitational Championship. Luther had dominated the tournament, sitting at 4/4 and needing only a draw to seal the state title. Odak, however, refused the early draw offer, and instead played fighting chess. He was sitting at only 2/4, but desired a winning record against the tough invitational field. His efforts paid off, as he defeated the 9-time State Champion. This forced Luther to settle for a tie with Jim Davies at the top of the crosstable (Luther did go on to win the title in a playoff). Few players expected such an effort from a player at the end of a long weekend with no prize chances, but Waldo showed his skill and character in that game.

Finally, if you'll tolerate my reminiscing a bit, I bet most players have fond memories of the first games they played against certain high level of players. For example, your first time playing a GM (or for some of you out there, better players than I, your first win against one). One of my milestone memories was the first time I was paired with a player over 2000. It was the first round of the St. Louis Open, and I remember being both excited to get paired at a top board, and that I'd actually come close to being in top half of the field! My opponent was none other than Waldo Odak, and while he ground me down for an easy win, the fact that I put up a fair fight, even holding equal until around move 20, was quite a thrill. I still remember how Odak took the time to go over the game and compliment my play. A small thing for him but one that was greatly appreciated. I'll share the game for those who want to see Waldo's solid play, and/or another example of my own ummmm… skill.

Queen's Indian Defense
St. Louis Open
W: Waldo Odak (2064)
B: Bob Howe (1223)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 b6 4.g3 Bb7 5.Bg2 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nc3 d5 8.b3 Nbd7 9.Bb2 c5 10.cxd5 Nxd5 11.e3 Nxc3 12.Bxc3 Rc8 13.Qd3 Bc6 14.Rfd1 Qc7 15.Rac1 Qb7 16.Qe2 Rfd8 17.Bb2 Bf6 18.Ne1 Bxg2 19.Nxg2 Be7 20.dxc5 Nxc5 21.Qg4 "This is the first point I felt I had an advantage" is the one line I specifically remember from our analysis. At that point in my chess career, holding even for 20 moves with an expert was high praise. I played the queen's indian religiously for years after this, probably only because of that comment! **Rxd1+ 22.Rxd1 Bf8 23.Ne1 Qe4 24.Qxe4 Nxe4 25.Rd7 a5 26.Nd3 Rc2 27.Rd8 h6 28.Ba3!** if your rooting for black, just stop following the game now.. **Nc5 29.Ne5 g6 30.Bxc5 Rxc5 31.Nd7 Rd5 32.Nf6+ Kg7 33.Nxd5 exd5 34.Rxd5 Bc5 35.Kg2 g5 36.g4 Kg6 37.Rf5 Kg7 38.Kf3 Kg6 39.Ke4 Bd6 40.h3 Bc7 41.Kd5 1-0**

"U.S. Chess has found its home." Garry Kasparov,
referring to reigning "Chess City of the Year" Saint Louis!

Recent News in Missouri Chess

Missouri's young masters have made quite an impression recently! Both Kevin Cao and Jialin Ding have earned a place on the front homepage of the United Chess Federation's website (and the cover of the MCB as well!) after outstanding performances in big events.

Cao tied for first with two Grandmasters at the Pittsburg Open this past March. Kevin's 4/5 was enough to match the best scores in the event. A pair of US Championship contenders, GM Alexander Shabalov and GM Alex Onischuk were the only ones able to keep pace with young Cao, making a three way tie atop the Open section. Cao went undefeated, with three wins and two draws, including wins over a Women's Grandmaster and a Fide Master. The article can still be viewed at http://main.uschess.org/content/view/11117/626/

A performance like Pittsburg has gotten the attention of more than just us here in Missouri. Kevin has been invited to the prestigious US Cadet Championships in July. This "invitation only" tournament brings some of the best players under 16yr old in the nation together. See pg. 19 for the press release on this tournament.

Meanwhile, Jialin Ding also had a moment in the sun, as he was the lead story on the USCF homepage after the Mid America Open. Jialin tied for first with six other players at that event, including Grandmasters and International Masters. Ding not only tied for first, but after comparing his competition to the other tied players, he lost on tiebreaks by a mere half a point! Jialin's event was highlighted by a win over GM Sergey Kudrin and a draw against GM Benjamin Finegold. The tournament report was written by Missouri's own Ken West, and is included on page 18.

Congratulations to Margaret Hua on another fine performance at the recent All Girls National Championship . Margaret played up to the top section, the Under 18 year old, and tied for third place with 4/6. She finished with three wins and two draws against a single loss, including a draw against the tournament winner, an expert player from Oregon. Several of Margaret's games from the event are included in the Games section of the Bulletin.

Steven Rand, of Kansas City, is currently attending college in Chicago. His school club put a team in the Famous Amateur Team East Tournament, and Steven shined. Rand scored a perfect 5-0, including a win over a master and an expert. His play earned him his first Expert rating, and a picture on the USCF homepage. Several of Rand's wins from the tournament can be found in the games section on page 27 of this Bulletin. Congratulations Steven!

Missouri Chess Association: Mission Statement

As the Official State Affiliate of the United States Chess Federation, The Missouri Chess Association's mission is to promote, coordinate, and support chess activities throughout the State of Missouri. This should always to be accomplished with a fair and unbiased approach, protecting the rights and interests our Members, Tournament Directors, Organizers, and Chess Players in the great state of Missouri.

Steven is far from the only Missourian cracking the 2000 point barrier lately. Congratulations are also due to Isaiah Gadson, a high school freshman who made expert at the St. Louis Open, Nathan Swinger who cracked 2000 at the Columbia Open, David Meliti reached that mark at the Greater Peoria Open, and finally, Selden Trimble, for regaining expert status after a brief decade or so stint in Class A. Congrats to all these players, and if I missed anyone else deserving of mention please let me know!

The Missouri Chess Association elections are coming up soon. Be sure to look for your ballot in the mail after June 1st. All nine board slots are elected each year by the membership, with three slots filled from each of the regions; St. Louis area, Kansas City area, and rest of state.

GM Nakamura will get home field advantage against GM Ruslan Ponomariov this May. (photo: Laura Smith)

The Chess Club and Scholastic Center has announced a plan to hold several World Class Matches at the club this spring. Local Grandmaster, and US #1 GM Hikaru Nakamura will take on GM Ruslan Ponomariov. Ponomariov is a Ukranian grandmaster, currently ranked 11th in the world. GM Ponomariov is best known for his victory in the Fide knockout Championship in 2002 at the tender age of 18. He has been ranked as high as 6th in the world, and is a consistent top player in elite events. The match will be a great challenge for GM Nakamura, who as the current world #8 is a slight rating favorite.

A second match will be running alongside the Nakamura-Ponomariov contest. GM in residence Benjamin Finegold was scheduled to be taking on one of the great legends of chess, Viktor Korchnoi. Unfortunately, GM Korchnoi had to withdraw due to some health issues (minor we understand, but enough to prevent him from the strenuous task of travel and a 10 round event) America's youngest GM, Ray Robson was called on to replace Kortchnoi, and will be filling in against GM Finegold. The matches will consist of 10 rounds, with six played at standard time controls, and four more games played via quick chess. The event will be open to spectators, providing another unique opportunity for local players to see high level action in St. Louis.

Saturday Rating Tournaments - May 14th, June 4th, & August 6th

4SS,G/30. Location: The Plex at Noland Baptist Church,
4505 South Noland Road, Independence MO 64055

- Entry Fee: only $5 ,
- Prizes: No prizes-entries go to support the the club.
- Registration: 10-10:50am. Rounds: 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45
- MCA membership required for Missouri residents

Entries/info:

Onsite or to chess_entries@comcast.net ***Note: There is no Internet service at the playing site, we will NOT be able to process any USCF memberships on site. If you need to purchase or renew a USCF Membership you will need to do so before the tournament and bring a copy of your receipt to give to the TD.*

Waldo Odak Open

~GM Ben Finegold ~

The Waldo Odak Open was held January 16-17 at the CCSCSL. Most of the Chess Club events are one day tournaments, but the occasional two-day weekend event is good for players who want slower time controls and some time between rounds to rest and eat. The turnout was a little light, but it was very strong and well-balanced in the Open section, with several experts and Class A players.

A tough field takes on GM Finegold in the fund raising Simul.

Unlike almost all other chess tournaments, this tournament was a fundraiser. Chess Club member Waldo Odak was diagnosed with ALS a few months ago, so the Chess Club decided to raise money for the ALS Foundation, and all the entry fees from this event, as well as any other private donations, were given to The ALS Foundation. Along with my simultaneous exhibition the day before the tournament, we were able to raise $2,200! During the event, two ladies from the ALS Foundation in Saint Louis gave a talk and thanked everyone for playing and donating to such a worthy cause.

Alex Marler (left) was able to win clear first with 4/5.

In the Open section there was one master, Richard Benjamin, along with several experts. The tournament was wide open right away, as many of the top seeds lost in rounds 1 and 2! Richard Benjamin lost to Tony Rich in round 1 (Tony's first win over a master), and Joe Garnier lost to Vikram Arun. With Joe and Richard both also losing in round 2 (!!) the tournament was wide open to any expert or Class A player having a good weekend. Alex Marler was able to secure first place with a score of 4-1 (3 wins and 2 draws), drawing quickly with expert Josh Frank in the last round, and only third seed James McLaughlin was able to catch Josh and tie for second with 3.5-1.5.

Steven Bange, Bill Thompson, Richard Benjamin and William Tong Compete in the Open section.

The reserve (U1800) section saw a three way tie for first, as Thomas Gaul, Tim Nesham, and Behrooz Vakil all scored 4-1. Gaul has gained a lot of rating points lately, and is actually at the mid 1800 range, but his official tournament rating was just under 1800.

I want to personally thank many of the participants who donated their prizes to the ALS foundation. Also, congrats to Open section winner Alex Marler, who is very close to breaking 2000 for the first time!

Between entry fees for the Simul, entry fees for the tournament, and donations from players, over $2200 for the fight against ALS was raised by the Saint Louis Chess community. Thanks to all who participated!

Photos by Jon Strand/CCSCSL

More Important than Material

~ IM Goran Vojinovic ~

International Goran Vojinovic, of Serbia, along with his sponsors at www.infiniachess.com, have graciously agreed to contribute regular articles to the Missouri Chess Bulletin. IM Vojinovic plans to play in many local and regional events during his visits to Missouri. Keep an eye out at your local tournaments, or visit him online, at Infinia Chess.

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I have spent the last 15 years teaching young chess players. A few of them became grandmasters, who now play much better than myself. But, this, I suppose, is the dream of any teacher.
Many of young USA chess players, that I have had the luck to see how they play, are extremely talented. One of their main problems is they focus on MATERIAL! They are too obsessed with material . That is a huge mistake. Theory says that knight, for example, is worth 3 pawns. That is wrong!!! Any piece's worth is by how they are placed on the board. Sometimes a knight is worth more than a rook, or even a queen. My general advice to all young Missouri chess players is to put focus on two important things in chess : INITIATIVE and CONTROLING SQUARES. Initiative is, in my opinion, the most important thing in modern chess. Initiative doesn't mean just attack on King. That is just one part. Generally, initiative includes:

1) attack on the opponent's King
2) destroying opponent's pawns in order to attack the weakened structure
3) reaching material advantage

But, are we able to have the initiative if opponent controls key squares? NO!!!
That leads us to second important thing in modern chess. That is CONTROLING SQUARES. These are very important things that young players must pay attention to. I will try to explain my thoughts through a line that was popular 15 years ago. First 20 moves I will play briefly , since that moves are generally forced.

Sicilian Defense
Groningen 1993
W: Lembit Oll
B: Julian Hodgson

1.**e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.Bg5** Richter-Rauser attack **6...e6 7.Qd2 Be7 8.0-0-0 Nxd4!** Precise! This move order is used by Kramnik (diagram right) **9.Qxd4 0-0 10.f4 Qa5 11.Bc4 Bd7 12.e5 dxe5 13.fxe5 Bc6 14.Bd2** [if 14.exf6, then Qxg5+**] 14...Nd7 15.Nd5 Qc5 16.Nxe7+ Qxe7 17.Rhe1** Allow moving of Qd4 **17...Rfd8 18.Qg4 Nf8 19.Bd3** (diagram - top left next page) After this move we can agree that White bishops are " looking " very seriously on Black King side. Rook from e1 can very easily come through e3 to g3. But after..... **19..Rxd3!? 20. cxd3** (diagram top right, next page) We have a position in which White has clear exchange up , but Black has FULL CONTROL OVER LIGHT SQUARES. **20...Qd7** Attacking d3 pawn, and threatening Qd5, with idea to attack ther a2 or g2 pawn**. 21.Kb1**

Black starts with 8.. Nxd4!

White's pieces are poised to attack Black's King, so Black sacrifices an exchange for a powerful initiative.

Let's look at a few variations at this point. -[SVIDLER - ANAND , Linares 1998 21.Bb4 Keeping d3 pawn and threatening to reduce material with Bxf8. 21...Ng6 22.Bd6 f5 23.Qg5 Bd5 24.b3 (HABU - MIROSCHNICHENKO , Dubai Open, 2006 - 24.Kb1 Qa4 25.b3 Qh4! Black offered trading of Queen's because he has full control over light squares and possibilities to push an extra pawn on King side. 26.Qxh4 Nxh4 27.g3 Nf3 28.Re2 g5 Black doesn't want to waste time, so he starts pushing pawns immediately. Plan is simple. He wants to have coordination of all pieces that will support advancing pawns on the King side, including his KING. Now King has space to move forward and support pushing of pawns. 29.Rc1 Kf7 30.Rc7+ Kg6 31.Kb2 h5 32.Rec2 h4 33.gxh4 Nxh4 34.Rc8 Rxc8 35.Rxc8 f4! 36.Kc3 Nf3 37.h3 a6 38.a3 Kh6 39.Be7 Nxe5 40.Bf6 Nf3 41.b4 Kg6 42.Be7 e5 43.Rf8 Nd4 44.Kd2 Be6 45.Rh8 Nf3+ 46.Kd1 Bf5 47.Ke2 Ng1+ 48.Kd2 Nxh3 and Black won the game in 61 moves.)

After the sacrifice, Black has a target on d3, and control of the light squares.

24...Qc6+ 25.Kb2 Qb6 26.g3 (*If 26.d4 a5 27.g4 (27.h4 Nh8! 28.Qf4 a4 29.b4 Nf7 with an unclear position) 27...a4 28.h4 Bxb3 with a perpetual check)* 26...Qd4+ 27.Kb1 Rc8! Even with just one rook against two, Black is in momentary control of c file. 28.Qe3 Qxe3 29.Rxe3 f4! 30.gxf4 Nxf4 (diagram below) This position is very interesting. It is an ending with a clear exchange up for White, with Rybka saying + 2.0 for White. BUT.....in practical game, only Black has a clear plan how to improve position. White is the side who must play carefully. What is Black plan? Black wants to set up his knight on the outpost on f5, and then start pushing g and h pawns. Those pawns will be supported by Bd5 and Nf5, which are safely placed on light squares, as well as the Black rook and King. White's bishop on d6 looks very well placed , but.....diagonals that Bd6 control are absolutely empty. 31.Rf1 Ng6 32.Rc1! Trying to trade the rook on c8, to simplify position and to keep equality.

After Nxf4, White's material advantage is little help in this ending.

(*If 32.Ree1 Nh4 33.Rc1 Bc6 34.b4 Re8 35.Kb2 Nf5 36.Bc5 a6 37.Kc3 h6 38.a3 g5 39.Kd2 h5 40.Rc4 Bd5 with an excellent and promising position for Black.)*

32...Rxc1+ 33.Kxc1 Even after the rooks trade, White doesn't have an advantage. 33...Nh4 34.Re2 g5 35.Kd2 Kg7 Black is trying to play for a win, but material will be reduced. 36. Rf2 Nf5 37.Bc7! Trying to improve position of "empty " Bishop on d6. 37...Kg6 38.Bd8 h6 39.Ke1 Kh5 40.Kf1 Kg4 41.Kg1 Kh3 42.b4 g4 43.a4 h5 44.Rf4 a6 = , Draw agreed, because neither side can improve position.]

21...Qxd3+ 22.Ka1 Lets consider the position of Qg4. Queen on g4 controls 4th rank, but also has some threats on Black's King **22...h5!?** Very interesting move, played with the idea to remove White's Queen

Infinia Chess

from 4th rank. **23.Qxh5** [Better was 23.Qe2 Qxe2 24.Rxe2 Rd8 25.Rde1 with an unclear position in which White still has a slight material advantage, but Black is who CONTROLS the board] **23...Ba4 24.Bc3** [If 24.b3 Qd4+ 25.Kb1 Bb5 26.Bc1 Bd3+ And Black is clearly better] **24...Bxd1 25.Rxd1** *(diagram right)* Lets make a few notes here. In this moment, White has control over d file, but does White have any penetration possibilities with rook on d file? Of course, no. Otherwise, Black Queen on e4 is very well placed in the middle of the board , controlling center and both sides.

White gets back his material after Rxd1, now what is the plan in the position?

Black has problems how to improve position of his rook and knight. Where you would like to see knight and rook if you play this position with Black pieces? The knight on d5 of course, and rook somewhere in White's part of the board. **25...Qe4 26.Qg5 a5 27.Qd2 Ng6 28.g3 Ne7 29.Qd7 Nd5** Finally, knight is on the key d5 square. The first part of Black plan is made. But how to improve position of rook? Right now it looks very tough and hard. **30.Bd4** [Not possible is 30.Qxb7 because of simple 30...Nxc3**] 30...Qe2 31.Rc1 b5 32.Bc5 Qd3 33.Qc6 Rd8 34.Bd6 Kh7!!** This move leads to the amazing plan of improving position of rook from d8. Black is trying to use FULL control of light squares to run second part of plan, improving position of the Rook**. 35.Qc5 Kg6!!** light square! **36.h4 Rh8!! 37.a3 Rh5!!** light square! **38.Qg1 Kh7!!** light square! **39.Rd1 Qb3** light square! (diagram left) **40.Rd2 Rf5** light square! **41.g4** At the end , after using LIGHT SQUARES , Black finished his plan to improve the position of knight and rook and now has a winning attack **41...Rf4 42.Qb1+ Kg8 43.g5 b4 44.Rd3 Nc3 45.axb4 Qa2+ 46.Qxa2 Rf1+ 0-1** White resigns

Black steadily improves his pieces, while keeping them on LIGHT squares!

June 18th, 2011
CCSCSL Super Team Championship

4SS, G/65 Three player Team Event
Location: Chess Club & Scholastic Center, Ave.,
4657 Maryland Ave, St. Louis MO 63108

- Prizes: $1,800 Gauranteed! Champion: $900, Top Team U4800-$600, Top Team U3900-$300
- Sections: Five Sections: Open, U/2000, U/1800, U/1600, U/1300
- Entry Fee: $105 for 3 person Team, $90 if all annual club members and registered by 6/17
- Registration: 9:00—9:45am
- Rounds: 10am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30
- Byes: due to team format, NO half point byes are available
- MCA membership required for Missouri residents
- Unrated players considered 1200 for prize and pairing purposes

Advance entries/info:
4657 Maryland Ave, St. Louis MO 63108
314-361-CHESS, or http://www.saintlouischessclub.org/

2011 U.S. WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

After two weeks of almost non-stop playing, IM Anna Zatonskih needed a few more hours to win the 2011 U.S. Women's Championship. She won her first rapid game as Black on Thursday against WFM Tatev Abrahamyan. Zatonskih seemed to be able to cruise to the title, but in the next round she spoiled a better position and lost. The two had to play a deciding Armageddon match that Zatonskih drew to give her the title. She had draw odds by virtue of playing Black and with less time.

Four Time Women's Champion:
IM Anna Zatonskih

"I don't have enough energy to celebrate," Zatonskih said. She slid down into a chair in relief.

The final game saw Zatonskih aim for an opposite-colored bishop endgame. Her control of the light squares stifled any chances for Abrahamyan to advance any pawns to make progress. After admitting that progress was impossible, a reluctant Abrahmyan looked up and signaled that she would concede the draw. Zatonskih immediately agreed, which gave her a fourth championship in six years.

Prior to the game's commencement, Zatonskih entered a secret bid of 19 minutes, 55 seconds. When Abrahamyan's bid of 24 minutes, 28 seconds was revealed, it meant that Zatonskih's lower time would give her a time handicap but the advantage of only needing a draw to win. Abrahamyan started with 45 minutes but took the White pieces. She chose to repeat her opening from the first rapid game.

In that first game, Abrahamyan sacrificed an exchange early but got good pressure. Zatonskih gave the material back and entered an endgame with an extra pawn but without an obvious breakthrough. On her 58th move with only seconds left for both women, Abrahamyan slid her king out of check to the left, allowing Zatonskih's bishop to attack from behind. Abrahamyan resigned a few moves later.

Tatev Abrahamyan held off until the final tiebreak game against the defending champion.

In their second rapid game, Zatonskih needed only a draw as White to avoid an Armageddon match and with the title outright. Instead, she squandered her space advantage and entered an endgame, this time down a pawn. Abrahamyan eventually found shelter for her king and promoted a pawn to a second queen, which she sacrificed for a forced checkmate. The match then stood at 1-1, requiring the Armageddon match.

Including the tiebreak and playoff matches, Zatonskih played 19 games of chess over a two-week period. This marks her fourth U.S. Women's Championship title and second since 2009 when the U.S. Women's Championship was first hosted in St. Louis.

~Championship reports by Fide Master Mike Klein ~

2011 U.S. CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

2011 US Chess Champion: GM Gata Kamsky

After an opening miscue led to a struggle for equality, GM Yury Shulman conceded a draw to GM Gata Kamsky and with it the title of 2011 U.S. Champion. Kamsky also won the title last year in another final-round game with Shulman. Kamsky won $40,000 for first place, plus $2,000 more for winning his preliminary group. His first title was in 1991.

Kamsky won yesterday in the first game of their match, putting Shulman in a must-win situation today, but he never seriously pressed. "I had to survive all game," Shulman said. Shulman is the 2008 U.S. Champion, and he earned $30,000 for his second-place finish this year.

"He should have done what he did last year against me in the rapid game – played slowly to build up pressure," Kamsky said. "After he played e4, I realized it was almost done." Shulman agreed that his seventh move was imprecise. "I should have shown some fight," Shulman said.

Prior to Kamsky, the last American to successfully defend his national championship was GM Lev Alburt in 1984-1985.

In the third-place matches, defending champion IM Irina Krush never faced serious problems in her game with WGM Camilla Baginskaite. "White has to be very precise for an edge, but that wasn't my goal today," Krush said. The drawn game follows Krush's win yesterday to give her a match win and third in the U.S. Women's Championship. She also qualified for the Women's World Cup. After playing chess for two weeks with only a day's rest, Krush left the press room and said, "This ordeal is over." Krush won $9,500 for third place and an additional $1,000 for winning the round-robin. Baginskaite earned $7,000 plus a $500 round-robin bonus.

Yuri Shulman, the 2008 Champion, falls to Kamsky in the finals for the second year in a row.

GM Robert Hess and GM-elect Sam Shankland followed their draw yesterday with another today. Shankland barely flinched as Black in playing his entire game by only using up one minute on his clock. A frustrated Hess reluctantly repeated the position to ensure he would not get a worse game, and IA Carol Jarecki allowed the early repetition after consulting with the players.

The match skipped any rapid game and weant to an Armageddon tiebreak. Shankland bid 20 minutes and Hess' envelope was opened to reveal a bid of 19 minutes, 55 seconds. Hess took less time but had the Black pieces and draw odds. Shankland played a complicated system and the resulting imbalance left Hess with too little time to hold the position. With the win, Shankland earned $20,000 and easily his best finish in the U.S. Championship. Hess earned $17,000 for fourth place ($15,000 plus a $2,000 bonus for winning his preliminary group). In 2009, Hess finished in second place.

State Scholastic Tournament

~ Bob Howe ~

The State Championship tournaments for kids grades Kindergarten through Twelfth grade was once again held in Jefferson City on the last weekend of February. The event this year brought out four hundred kids from every corner of the state, to compete for their themselves and their school teams.

Next year the tournament will be moving a few miles north, returning to Columbia, Missouri. Rock Bridge High School will be hosting the event in 2012. This should offer an improved location with more room at a more reasonable cost, as well as making driving easier for many of the school's and players.

Congratulations to all the players who came out for this wonderful experience, and especially to the 2011 State Champions!

2011 Missouri State Championships Results

Team Champions:

- **High School** Division

Co-Champions: Rockhurst High School, Kansas City, &
Lamar High School, Lamar MO
3rd: (tie) Parkway North High & St. Louis Metro High

- **9th and Under**

Champions: Crossroads School, St. Louis, MO
2nd: Vianney High School
3rd: Lindberg High School

- **8th and Under**

Champions: Wydown Middle School, Clayton, MO
2nd: Thomas Jefferson Middle School
3rd: Sperreng Middle School

- **6th and Under**

Champions: Central Christian Elementary School, St. Louis, MO
2nd: Dunbar Elementary
3rd: Maplewood-Richmond Heights Elementary

- **5th and Under**

Champions: Pembroke Hill School, Kansas City, MO
2nd: Spoede Elementary
3rd: Kennard Elementary

- **3rd and Under**

Champions: Pembroke Hill School, Kansas City, MO
2nd: New City Elementary
3rd: Glenridge Elementary

MCA President Thomas Rehmeier and IM Goran Vojinovic present awards.

After an unusually quiet year in 2010, The Pembroke Hill School stormed back in 2011 with two Team Championships.

Photos courtesy of Laura Smith

Individual State Champions:

- **High School Board 1:**
- James Larkin Smith, Lamar HS, Lamar, MO
- **Board 2**
- Andrew Schatz, Parkway Central HS, Chesterfield, MO
- **Board 3**
- Thomas Tran, Rockhurst HS, Kansas City, MO
- **Board 4**
- Harry J Hawkins IV, Rockhurst HS, Kansas City, MO

- **9th and Under**
- William Nesham, Liberty Classical, O'Fallon, MO

- **8th and Under**
- Kevin Cao, Parkway Central MS, Kansas City, MO &
- Ansar Lemon, Homeschooler

- **6th and Under**
- Keturah J Gadson, Central Christian ES, St. Louis, MO

- **5th and Under**
- Zoe Lemon, Homeschooler
- Jason Zhou, Chesterfield Day MS, Chesterfield, MO

- **3rd and Under**
- Jason Ding, Spoede Elementary, St. Louis, MO

Jason Ding
K-3 Champ

Ansar Lemon (left) & Kevin Cao
tied for first in the K-8

Zoe Lemon (left) & Jason Zhou
winners of the K-5 section.

William Nesham
K-9 Champ

June 25th, 2011
Kansas City Open

4SS, G/75 **Missouri Invitational Qualifier**

Location: The Plex at Noland Baptist Church.,
4305 South Noland Road, Independence, MO 64055

- Sections: Open Section and Reserve (U1600) sections available
- Prizes: Based on 40/ Open & Reserve, Each —1st $150, 2nd $100, 3rd $50
  Trophies to top 2 Scholastic Players
- Entry Fee: $20 postmarked by 6/18, $30 thereafter Scholastic players may pay half entry, are then eligible for only trophy prizes.
- Registration: 9:00—9:45am
- Rounds: 10am, 1:30, 3:30, 6:30
- Byes: Max one 1/2 pt bye if declared by round 1.
- MCA membership required for Missouri residents

Advance entries/info:
CJ Armenta, 12734 Richmond Ave, Grandview, MO 64030
Email carmenta@kc.rr.com 816-763-4136

2011 Metro Class Championship

~ Alex Marler ~

The third annual Metro Class Championship drew quite the crowd with 47 players, ranging from unrated players to chess experts. Thanks to the number of participants all prizes were paid out in full. The event ran smoothly thanks to Jon Strand, Mike Kummer, and Alex Marler. The event also served as the final stage in Alex Marler's race to coveted 2000 rating.

Alex Vergilesov (left) and Will Nesham compete in the Class A section.

The Master/Expert Class section featured: Joe Garnier, Josh Frank, Kenny Thomas, and Barry Manthe. Josh Frank cleaned up with two quick wins against Garnier and Manthe, and a quick draw with Kenny Thomas. The A Class was a race to expert level between Alex Marler and Isiah Gadson. Gadson and Marler convincingly won their first two rounds, and so met each other for a final showdown in round 3. The board was teeming with tension as a win for either player meant and a new 2000+ rating. After a complicated opening the game petered out to an equal position and a draw was quickly agreed to both players' relief. They shared first place for the section and split the money, however only Marler was able to gain the necessary points to go over 2000.

Three of the four C class winners. Don Harper, Vishal Bharadwaj, and Nate Noss.

Michael Askin dominated the B Class. The crucial match up occurred in round 3 when Bill Thompson and Michael Askin faced off for all the marbles. Askin got the better Thompson this time and took the money.

The C Class featured an unheard of 4 way tie. Congrats to Nate Noss, Vishal Bharadwaj, Erick Ewalt , and Don Harper.

The D Class was well attended this year by Ken West and his victims. That's right, Ken West, for the first time in quite sometime, taught lessons all day by winning three games in row. Congrats to Ken on a great tournament and a new 1400+ rating.

The tournament attracted 15 U1200 players, which is rather exciting because we love seeing new players in our tournaments. Congrats to Jonathan Schrantz, Sal Francis, James Wang, and Salvador Jara. All in all the event ran smoothly and I hope we can keep the tradition alive next year with 60+ players.

Youth vs Veterans in the U/1200 section.

Photos by Jon Strand/CCSCSL

MISSOURIANS ON THE USCF TOP 100 LISTS — April 2011

Overall	GM Hikaru Nakamura (2876)	1st
	GM Ben Finegold (2568)	28th
	IM Michael Brooks (2417)	99th
Age 18	Steven Rand (2000)	42nd
	Henry Cao (1871)	78th
	Alex Esposito (1851)	82nd
	Brad Schlosser (1836)	88th
Age 15	Isaiah Gadson (1982)	41st
	James L. Smith (1982)	41st
	Vikram Arun (1934)	57th
	William Nesham (1841)	87th
Age 14	Kevin Cao (2236)	4th
	Jialin Ding (2192)	5th
Age 13	William Tong (1966)	29th
	Ansar Lemon (1920)	40th
Age 12	Margaret M.Hua (1973)	25th
	Stephen Zhang (1696)	93rd
Age 9	Jason Zhou (1612)	27th
Girls U13	Margaret M. Hua (1973)	5th
	Zoe Lemon (1447)	54th
	Keturah Gadson (1433)	57th
Senior	Robert Jacobs (2100)	50th
Correspondence:	Barry Walker (2226)	52nd

MISSOURI'S TOP 100 (April 2011)

1	GM Hikaru Nakamura	2876
2	IM Goran Vojinovic	2567
3	GM Benjamin Finegold	2564
4	IM Michael Brooks	2439
5	Charles Lawton	2327
6	Kevin Cao	2244
7	Jialin Ding	2239
8	Ronald Luther	2200
9	Bob Holliman	2200
10	Richard Benjamin	2200
11	Mark Ferber	2169
12	Mark Bohannon	2155
13	James Voelker	2144
14	Nathaniel Fast	2103
15	James McLaughlin	2100
16	Abishek Mallela	2097
17	Joshua Frank	2097
18	Dan Renario	2078
19	Gregory Williams	2078
20	Kenneth Thomas	2068
21	Barry Manthe	2066
22	Spencer Finegold	2065
23	Zachary Druckerman	2054
24	Waldo Odak	2046
25	Joseph Garnier	2044
26	Nick Karlow	2030
27	Scott Moore	2029
28	Frank Smith	2027
29	Isiah Gadson	2020
30	David Meliti	2013
31	Suman Kalavagunta	2013
32	Benjamin Gradsky	2012
33	Alex Marler	2022
34	Steven Rand	2000
35	James Davies	2000
36	Kevin Dale Johnson	2000
37	Nathan Swinger	1999
38	Selden Trimble	1997
39	Lucas Cane	1991
40	Margaret Hua	1986
41	James Smith	1982
42	Tony Rich	1972
43	Pranav Akolkar	1972
44	Tamas Mizik	1972
45	William Tong	1968
46	Daniel Huff	1965
47	Mark Young	1963
48	John Boyer	1931
49	Ansar Lemon	1928
50	Vikram Arun	1921
51	Mark Cogley	1916
52	Dwight Beasley	1916
53	Anthony Cirillo	1916
54	Tony Dutiel	1908
55	Al Howlett	1908
56	Kenneth Fee	1906
57	Rodney Vaughn	1892
58	Steven Bange	1887
59	Chris Fieber	1885
60	Darius Masuhud	1881
61	William Nesham	1876
62	Henry Cao	1873
63	Robert Taras	1867
64	Renzo Herrera	1866
65	Alex Vergilesov	1860
66	Daniel Coryea	1855
67	David Askin	1848
68	Alex Esposito	1846
69	Raymond Birt	1845
70	Daniel Juengel	1845
71	Frank Whitsell	1845
72	Brad Schlosser	1836
73	John Quimby	1830
74	Thomas Rehmeier	1826
75	Stephen Landrum	1826
76	Tom Epplin-Zapf	1808
77	Joel Stebbins	1803
78	Behrooz Vakil	1800
79	Marcus Scott	1800
80	Timothy Nesham	1796
81	Edil Karabiev	1792
82	Smajlagic Senad	1784
83	Matt Barrett	1783
84	Paul Goddard	1781
85	Michael Kummer	1779
86	Jacob Wilkins	1777
87	Ray Kurczynski	1775
88	Wayde Stallman	1769
89	Joe Piotrowski	1747
90	Adrian Barlow	1745
91	Anthony Ford	1740
92	Yomi Toba	1735
93	Brad Herbst	1732
94	Allen Bishop	1731
95	Bob Howe	1729
96	Aleksey Kazakevich	1727
97	William Starnes	1724
98	Shane Evans	1720
99	Mike Clark	1717
100	Spencer Conklin	1705
100	Matthew Angeli	1705
100	Stephen Zhang	1705

USCF April Supplement
Includes players active in the past 12 months.

Grandmaster checkmates them all

~ Josh Goldman ~

This article first appeared in print on Feb. 28th in Student Life, the independent student newspaper of Washington University in St. Louis, after a visit to Washington University by GM Hikaru Nakamura.

The nation's top chess player needed just two and a half hours to win 42 concurrent games against the top players from the Washington University community.

Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura, ranked first in the United States and 10th in the world according to the World Chess Federation's ranking system, came to College Hall on Saturday to help the Washington University Chess Club expand its outreach into the community.

The event, organized with the help of the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, featured a question-and-answer session with Nakamura as well as the opportunity to challenge the grandmaster to a game of bullet chess or to participate in the 42-game simul.

"He's given people the chance to play him, and he is really one of the best in the world. It's a really cool experience for people in St. Louis to get to play against one of the world's best," said Mike Wilmering, communications specialist for the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis.

Grandmaster Hikaru Nakamura stops to make his move against junior Mark Rosenberg during the 42-player simul challenge on Saturday. Nakamura defeated all 42 players in around two and a half hours. He also faced challengers in fast-paced bullet chess. (photo by Matt Mitgang)

Nakamura, regarded as one of the best bullet chess players in the world, allowed opponents to challenge him to games where they set the time constraints. In the first challenge of the evening, Nakamura needed just 48.8 seconds to defeat sophomore Nick Karlow, who co-founded the University's chess club last year and is one of its strongest players. Karlow had five minutes in which to play the game while Nakamura was given just one. The grandmaster hesitated just once before moving, and his pause stemmed from a quick glance at his opponent, not a moment of indecision.

"I smiled, and he smiled.…We both realized I was screwed," Karlow said. "Honestly, I didn't really have a chance, but I thought I kind of lost my focus because I was playing a legend."

Nakamura, just 23 years old, became a chess master at the age of 10 before becoming the youngest U.S. grandmaster in history at just 15 years and 79 days, a record that has since been broken. When Nakamura became grandmaster in 2002, he narrowly broke the U.S. record set by Grandmaster Bobby Fischer, the only American to win a world championship.

While Nakamura has not captured a world title, he won the 2005 and 2009 United States Championships and recently defeated the top four players in the world to win the 2011 Tata Steel Chess Tournament, a victory described by GM Gary Kasparov, a former world champion, as the greatest victory for American chess.

"It's a great honor. Obviously hearing that from anyone, but especially from Kasparov, means a lot," Nakamura said. "To actually win a major tournament like that and hear such complimentary words from someone like Kasparov is something I'll never forget."

The 42-game simul challenge drew a crowd of more than 100 people, with students, professors and other members of the University community taking part in the challenge.

Julian Weaver, 6, plays chess every day and attended the event with his father, Washington University mathematics professor Nik Weaver. The younger Weaver followed Nakamura's every move and offered a terse summary of the event. "[It's] really cool," Weaver said.

A longtime resident of White Plains, N.Y., Nakamura moved to St. Louis in 2010 to work with the Chess Club and Scholastic Center, which Nakamura called the best in the nation, if not the world. The club has more than 700 active members and has hosted the past two U.S. Championships. (continued - bottom page 17)

When Clubs Clash!

~ Martin Stahl ~

On a recent Saturday (January 22th, 2011), 7 members of the Joplin Chess club traveled to Springfield to play a club versus club rated tournament against the Springfield Park Board Chess Club. Turnout was better than expected as 8 players from the Springfield club attended, leaving one player that had to sit out, due to the format. Parings were in a Scheveningen format (each player on one team plays each player on the other).

Pre-tournament Skittles

Games started out fast and furious, many of the first round games being completed well under an hour. Overall, the event went smoothly, with only a couple of minor hiccups, quickly resolved. Forty seven (47) games later (2 games won by forfeit as one Springfield player had to leave after his 5th game), the score was Joplin with 28 points, Springfield 21.

Stanley Horton vs Robert Talbot

Joel Stebbins continued his recent good performances, finishing with a perfect 7.0 score, pulling in 1st place overall. Springfield members, James Long and Edil Karabiev, tied for 2nd with 6.0 points each. The full cross table is available at the USCF website.

I want to thank Joe Brozovich and the Springfield Park Board Chess Club (http://www.springfieldparkboardchessclub.com) for inviting us up to play. I hope there will be many more in the future.

David King vs Trent Burris

James Long vs Martin Stahl

Mathew Yonke vs Daniel Todd

Pictures courtesy of Ron Hoover
Twofeetofftheasphalt.wordpress.com

Grandmaster Checkmates them all (from page 19)

Nakamura hopes that outreach activities, like the event at College Hall on Saturday, will help popularize the game with younger children while also keeping more experienced players motivated to continue advancing their chess ability.

"It's just to enjoy chess for what it is, [and] to try to improve," Nakamura said of the lessons he tries to teach. "But also, just to see everything that it can give, especially to kids. One of the things that I really want to see in the future much more is chess getting out there so that kids can see what it can do for them.…I look at what the Chess Club [of Saint Louis] is doing with a lot of their scholastic programs out there, and they show that chess can improve critical thinking skills as well as reading and writing."

Both the Chess Club of Saint Louis and the club at the University offer chess programs at local schools, with the former offering chess as an after-school program at more than 30 schools around the city and county. Nakamura hopes that chess continues to grow in popularity so that others can enjoy the game to which he dedicates all of his time.

"When you play chess, it doesn't matter [who you are] because it's a game where you sit down, and you play the game, and the person who is able to think better and calculate better is going to win," Nakamura said. "I think chess is a game that brings everyone together."

Seven Tie in Mid America Open

~ Ken West ~

This article originally appeared on Chess Life Online http://main.uschess.org/content/view/11105/626/

Seven players tied for first at the 15th Mid-America Open in Saint Louis with IM Angelo Young topping on tiebreaks over GM Sergey Kudrin, GM Ben Finegold, IM Ron Burnett, FM Conrad Holt, FM Andrew Karklins and local junior star Jialin Ding. According to organizer Steve Immitt, Young was ahead of Ding by "a half tiebreak point" to win the additional $80 First Place bonus.

14-year-old Ding had a second round win over GM Sergei Kudrin, which ended in checkmate!

Sicilian Defense
Mid America Open!
W: Jialin Ding (2186)
B: GM Sergei Kudrin (2628)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.g3 Bb4 7.Nde2 Nf6 8.Bg2 Be7 9.O-O Nc6 10.h3 d6 11.g4 b5 12.Be3 O-O 13.Ng3 b4 14.Nce2 Re8 15.f4 Bf8 16.Qd2 Bb7 17.g5 Nd7 18.f5 Rac8 19.b3 Nc5 20.Nf4 g6 21.fxg6 hxg6 22.h4 a5 23.Bh3 Nd8 24.Bg2 Bg7 25.Rad1 Be5 26.h5 Nd7 27.hxg6 fxg6 28.Qe2 Nf8 29.Rd2 Bc3 30.Rdd1 Nf7 31.Qg4 Bh8 32.Rf2 Ne5 33.Qh3 Re7 34.Nf1 Qb8 35.Nh2 Rc3 36.Nd3 Nfd7 37.Bd4 Rc8 38.Bxe5 Nxe5 39.Nxe5 Bxe5 40.Ng4 Rce8 41.Nf6+ Bxf6 42.gxf6 Rf7 43.Qh6 Qc7 44.Rd3 Ref8 45.Rg3 Rh7 46.Rxg6+ Kh8 47.Qxf8# 1-0

Ding reaches a personal best rating of 2239 after the event. He also drew GM Ben Finegold and FM Andrew Karklins, who all ended with four points. Also finishing with four points were IM Ron Burnett and FM Conrad Holt. Here are some games from the winners:

Jialin Ding continued his impressive run of tournaments in 2011 at the Mid America.

Slav Defense
Mid America Open!
W: IM Ron Burnett (2380)
B: FM Conrad Holt (2457)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nbd2 Bf5 5.Nh4 Be6 6.e3 Ne4 7.Qc2 f5 8.g4 g6 9.gxf5 gxf5 10.f3 Nxd2 11.Bxd2 dxc4 12.Nxf5 Qd5 13.Ng3 Nd7 14.Bg2 c5 15.Bc3 cxd4 16.Bxd4 Nf6 17.f4 Qa5+ 18.Bc3 Qa6 19.Ne4 Bg7 20.Nc5 Qb6 21.Bd4 Kf7 22.Nxe6 Qxe6 23.Bxb7 Rab8 24.f5 Qd7 25.Qxc4+ Kf8 26.Bf3 Qxf5 27.O-O Rc8 28.Bg2 Qg4 29.Qd3 Rg8 30.Rf2 Bh8 31.Raf1 Rd8 32.Qc3 Rg6 33.h3 Qh4 34.Qc7 Rd6 35.Bc5 Re6 36.Qc8+ Kf7 37.Kh1 Re5 38.Rf4 Qg3 39.R1f2 Rg8 40.Qd7 Rxc5 41.Bd5+ Kg6 42.Be4+ Kh6 43.Rxf6+ Bxf6 44.Rxf6+ Rg6 45.Rxg6+ hxg6 46.Qd2 Qxh3+ 47.Kg1 Re5 0-1

Sicilian Defense
Mid America Open!
W: Barry Manthe (2061)
B: GM Ben Finegold (2567)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 d6 5.Nf3 e6 6.Bc4 Be7 7.O-O Nf6 8.Qe2 a6 9.e5 dxe5 10.Nxe5 Nc6 11.Rd1 Qa5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Ne4 O-O 14.Bd3 Nd5 15.Qh5 f5 16.Ng5 h6 17.Nh3 Qb4 18.Be2 Bd7 19.a3 Qh4 20.Qf3 g5 21.Qd3 e5 22.Kf1 g4 23.Ng1 Bc5 24.Qg3 Qf6 25.Bc4 Be6 26.b4 Bd4 27.Rxd4 exd4 28.Qd3 f4 29.Bxd5 Bxd5 30.Bb2 Rae8 31.Bxd4 Qf5 32.Qc3 f3 33.g3 Be4 0-1

Caro Cann Defense
Mid America Open!
W: GM Ben Finegold (2567)
B: Matthew Michaelides (2155)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c4 Nc6 5.Nf3 cxd4 6.Nxd4 e6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.Bd3 Ne7 9.O-O Ng6 10.Qh5 Qh4 11.Qe2 Bd7 12.g3 Qh3 13.Nd2 f6 14.f4 Be7 15.Nf3 f5 16.cxd5 cxd5 17.Bb5 Rb8 18.Bxd7+ Kxd7 19.Be3 Rhc8 20.Rac1 Ke8 21.Bxa7 Ra8 22.Qa6 black resigns **1-0**

"It was a tough tournament," Young said. "I played very well and had winning chances in every game." Even so, a last-round game between Young and Holt ended in a draw.

(continued page 19)

Kevin Cao Invited to US Cadet Champs

Kevin adds to his growing chess resume with a trip to a national invitational.

Ever since Crossville hosted the 2009 U.S. Cadet Championship, the field has gotten stronger and stronger. The 2011 version again is led by Aleksandr A. Ostrovskiy (2332) from New York, Atulya A. Shetty (2283) from Michigan, Michael H. Bodek (2279) from New York, Kevin Mo (2248) from Pennsylvania, Andrew C. Wang (2248) from Massachusetts, Michael W. Brown (2243) from California, Arthur Shen (2241) from New Jersey, and **Kevin Y. Cao (2236) from Missouri**. Ostrovskiy and Shetty are returning to the scene from the previous year.

The players should be ready and the fight is about to begin. The location is the same place where it all began in 2009: The Cumberland County Bank in Crossville, Tennessee. The date will be July 11-15. The players will be using the MonRoi scorekeeping device for the convenience of the spectators in order to view the action. Again this year you should be able to see all the action right from the convenience of the Internet. There will also be daily reports on Chess Life Online.

This is a national invitational chess championship for the top players under age 16. Along with the title is $500 plus a four-year, fixed dollar incoming tuition scholarship to the University of Maryland at Baltimore County (current value $69,760 for out-of state, $34,832 in state). Second place is $300 plus a four-year University Academic Service Scholarship to Tennessee Tech University (current value $20,000). Third place will get $200. Everyone will receive plaques.

The sponsors Cumberland County Chess Club, U.S. Chess Federation, Cumberland County Bank, TAP Publishing, House of Staunton, and Crossville Trophy & Gifts wish all the players the best of luck. The city of Crossville is once again honored to have the players and their families in Crossville and wish them the best and a great time while in Crossville.

USCF Press Release: by Alan Kantor

(Seven Tie: Continued from pg 18)

Kudrin took a last-round win over Steven Cooklev, rated 2064, to get back to the top of the wall chart. Burnett needed a last round win over Doug Hyatt, 2119, for his fourth point.

With 188 entries, however, it's not all about the top boards. Five members of the Hertel family again made the journey from South Bend, Ind., to play. Todd Hertel and four of his children all competed in the under 1300 category. It's the third time in four years the family has played in the Mid America Open.

"We like competing and it's fun," Todd Hertel said.

Stan Jackson, of Missouri, had the only perfect score in the tournament, winning all five of his games in the under 1600 category. He took home $1,280 for first.

Ken West also shared in the Under 1400 prize and won over one hundred rating points. See full USCF rated results in all sections at http://main.uschess.org/content/view/11105/626/ and prize breakdowns and further information on midamericaopen.com.

Congratulations to these recent Tournament Winners:

Waldo Odak Open: Open: Alex Marler
Reserve: Tom Gaul, Tim Nesham & Behrooz Vakil

Mikhail Tal Open: Barry Manthe & Frank Smith

Four States Winter Open: Open: IM Goran Vojinovic
U/1600: Stan Horton

Metro Class Championship:

Expert:	Josh Frank
Class A:	Isaiah Gadson & Alex Marler
Class B:	Michael Askins
Class C:	Nate Noss, Vishal Bharadwaj, Eric Ewalt, Don Harper
Class D:	Ken West
Class E:	James Wang, Sal Francis, Salvador Jara, Jon Schrantz

The St. Louis Open: Open: GM Mesgen Amanov
Reserve: Michael Askin

Mizzou Quads:

Quad A:	Selden Trimble
Quad B:	Ansar Lemon & Tony Dutiel
Quad C:	Bob Howe
Quad D:	Zoe Lemon
Quad E:	Jack Pearce

The Mid-America Open:

Open: 7way tie!: Jialin Ding, GM Benjamin Finegold, GM Sergey Kudrin, IM Conrad Holt, IM Angelo Young, Ronald Burnett, Andrew Karklins
Under 2000: Mark Cogley, Nathan Criss, Sameer Manchanda, Rene Ancheta
Under 1800: Mark Lynch, Jeffery Radlauer, Michael Robertson, Dallas Loven
Under 1600: Stan Jackson (the only perfect score!)
Under 1300: James Wang, Dylan Mize

Columbia Open: Ron Luther

Ben's Birthday Bash: Open: IM Michael Brooks
Reserve: Dan Holmes

Scholastic Schedule

Local Events

Parkade June Open
June 18th Parkade Center -- Columbia -- . Entry Fee $5. .
Registration 9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Rounds at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Awards ceremony at 2 p.m

Royal Rumble Bash
4SS, G/30. July 23rd, 2011
Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis
$5 if received by 7/22, $10 on-site.
www.saintlouischessclub.org

Back to School Bash
4SS, G/30. August 13th 2011
Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis
$5 if received by 7/22, $10 on-site.
www.saintlouischessclub.org

Missouri Kids Chess Festival
October 30th, 2011
Columbia Missouri
5rd G/30, + Side events and special guests

Upcoming National Events:

National Elementary (K-6) Championship 6-8 May
Hilton Anatole
2201 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, TX 75207

US Junior Open
Houston Texas, July 22-24
6SS G/120 4 Sections based on age:
Under 21, Under 15, Under 11 and Under 8

Trophies Plus US Girls Junior Open Championship
Orlando, Florida
July 30th– August 2nd
6SS 40/2, SD/1

US Junior Chess Congress October 29th-30th
Santa Clara, California
6rd G/75, Sections by Age
BayAreaChess.com/usjr11.

Summer Camps

15th Annual USA Chess National Summer Chess Camp Tour www.chesscamp.com

New City School
5209 Waterman Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63108
July 11 - July 15, 2011

MICDS
101 North Warson Road St. Louis, MO 63124
July 25 - July 29, 2011

Chess Camp Ages 5-15 • All Abilities. USA Chess is the largest and premier chess camp organizer for children in the United States. Our staff is comprised of the finest children's chess instructors in North America. Campers experience chess instruction and play in a fun filled environment designed to improve their skills whether they are interested in casual or competitive chess. Program includes a mix of classroom instruction and practice sessions. Instructors use a variety of teaching tools including demo boards, worksheets, stories and historic games to keep class time interesting. During snack/practice time campers play each other and practice the concepts learned in class.

2011 Summer Camps with Grandmaster Ben Finegold http://www.saintlouischessclub.org/camps

Join GM Ben Finegold and other qualified staff as they walk you through algebraic chess notation, proper piece and board set-up, chess clock usage (timers), basic tactics (forks, skewers, pins, double attacks, double check, en passant, x-ray, etc), positional chess, development, and endgame skills.
Ages 6 - 21 ALL DAY = $450 if registered by May 31, 2011: $500 if registered later. HALF DAY = $270 if registered by May 31, 2011: $300 if registered later. Camp 1: June 27-July 5, Camp 2: July 18-22. All day and half day available

Chess Camps Summer 2011 At the Barstow School http://zebfortman.com/ChessCamps.html

Beginners	July 11-15: 12:30pm - 3:30pm, Grades 1-3	July 18-22: 9:00am - 12:00pm, Grades 1-3
Intermediate and Advanced	July 11-15: 9:00am - 12:00pm, Grades 4-8	July 18-22: 12:30am - 3:30pm, Grades 4-8

Open enrollment starts 02/15/2011 for students that don't attend The Barstow School.

Regional Chess Clubs

Heart of America Chess Association
Noland Baptist Church
4505 S Noland Rd. Independence, MO 64055
Meets: Friday nights 7-11pm
Community Club, No fee to play
Contact Bob Holliman-chess_entries@comcast.net

Westport Chess Club
Westport Flea Market 817 Westport Rd. Kansas City, MO
Meets: Tuesdays 6:30 to 11:00 PM
$2 for adults, $1 for Students and under 18
Contact Ray Birt-westportchessclub@gmail.com
Website-http://www.westportchessclub.org

Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis
4657 Maryland, Saint Louis, Missouri 63108
Club open Tuesday-Sunday
Weekly Blitz, Bughouse, Lessons, and Tournaments
Contact Tony Rich-trich@saintlouischessclub.org
or call 314-361-CHESS
Website-http://saintlouischessclub.org

St. Louis Chess Club
St. Louis Bread Company 6630 Delmar Ave. (U-City)
Chess played every night 6-9pm, most players come week-ends Contact Joesph Garnier-chessoholic@sbcglobal.net

Your Club Here!
Email bdhowe@yahoo.com to have your club advertised in the MCB and the MCA Website.

St. Peters Chess Club
Liberty Classical School, O'Fallon, MO 63366
Meet on Friday: 4:30—6pm
Membership: $60 yearly. Private Lessons: $20 per hour
Contact Tim Nesham-tim.nesham@gmail.com

Univ. of Missouri Chess Club
Memorial Union (518 Hitt Street) Room N206, Columbia
Meets: Mondays 7 to 10 PM August-May
Contact Charlie Ward-czar8196@gmail.com
Website-http://muchess.students.missouri.edu

Missouri S&T Chess Club
Havener Center, Shamrock Room Missouri S&T
1346 N. Bishop, Rolla, MO 65409
Meets: Thursdays 7 to 9 PM
Contact Thomas Rehmeier-trrthf@mst.edu

Springfield Park Board Chess Club
Southside Senior Center 2215 S. Fremont Ave., Springfield
Meets: Fridays 6:30 to 11:00 PM
Contact Joe Brozovich- jmbroz@att.net or call 417-882-3992
Website- http://www.springfieldparkboardchessclub.com

Mineral Area Chess Club
McDonald's (Columbia and Hwy 67)
1700 W. Columbia St. Farmington, MO 63640
Meets: Monday nights 6:30-11pm
Contact: James Lyons: jaalyon@sbcglobal.net

Foxtrot: by Bill Amend

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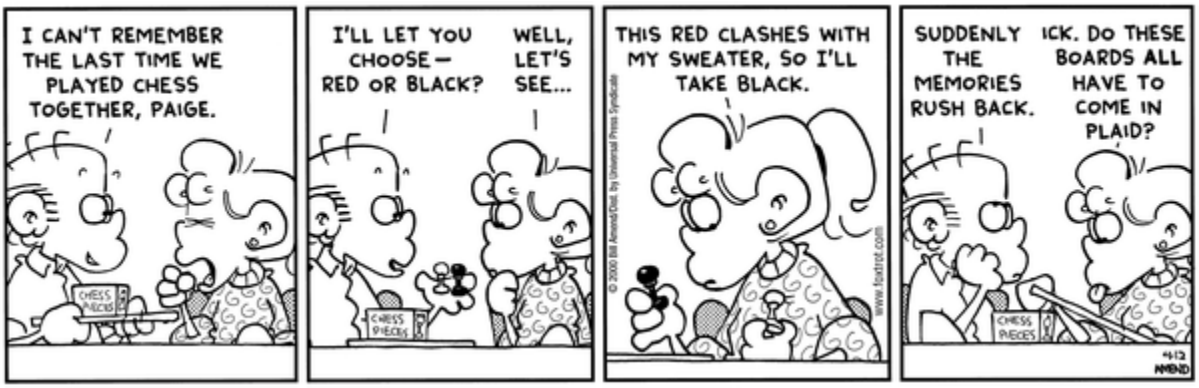
I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE PLAYED CHESS TOGETHER, PAIGE.
I'LL LET YOU CHOOSE— RED OR BLACK?
WELL, LET'S SEE...
THIS RED CLASHES WITH MY SWEATER, SO I'LL TAKE BLACK.
SUDDENLY THE MEMORIES RUSH BACK.
ICK. DO THESE BOARDS ALL HAVE TO COME IN PLAID?
CHESS PIECES

"And his six pawns were scattered like the ships of the Armada that should have conquered England; the Lord blew, and they were all isolated." Hans Kmoch

Membership & Subscriptions

A one-year membership in the Missouri Chess Association includes a subscription to the quarterly *Missouri Chess Bulletin* chess publication, available in electronic or hard-copy, as well as eligibility to play in MCA-sponsored tournaments, including State Championship titled events.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS	COST (1 YR)
Regular *Ages 25+; Includes hard-copy MCB.*	$20.00
Scholastic *Under 25; Provides online MCB.*	$ 5.00
Electronic (Economy) *Provides online MCB access.* ***Email address required.*	$10.00
Family *2 Adults & children under 25* *Provides one hard-copy MCB.*	$18.00
Scholastic Family *All children under 25.*	$12.00

If you would like to join the MCA, please fill out a membership form *(available at mochess.org)* and mail it along with dues to the MCA Membership Coordinator:

Ed Baur
7138 Lindenwood
St. Louis, MO 63109
314-645-2897

Be sure to include your E-mail address to receive tournament announcements and notices when the new issue of the MCB is released. For more information, please visit *http://www.mochess.org/* and click the Join Us' link.

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UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

May 14th—Saturday Rating Tournament—Independence
4SS, G/30. The Plex at Nolan Road Baptist Church, 4505 South Nolan Road, Independence, MO 64055. Registration: 10:00-10:50. Round times: 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45. EF: $5. No prizes-entries go to support the the club. MCA required for Missouri residents. Entries/Info: Onsite or to chess_entries@comcast.net by 6 pm on 5/12. ***Note: There is no Internet service at the playing site, we will NOT be able to process any USCF memberships on site. If you need to purchase or renew a USCF Membership you will need to do so before the tournament and bring a copy of your receipt to give to the TD.*

May 28 – Show-Me Classic – Saint Louis
4SS, G/65. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs, not counted toward the based on prize fund total. Entry Fee: $25, $20 for annual members of the club if registered by 5/27. MCA membership req'd from $5. Prize Fund: (b/40) $750: 1st Overall-$145, 2nd Place-$105. $100 for 1st in each class: A, B, C, D, U1200/UNR. Winner qualifies for 2012 Club Championship. Registration: 9-9:45. Rounds: 10, 12:30, 3, 5:30. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of $70/night. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. 314-361-CHESS. Additional Info: visit the website www.saintlouischessclub.org

June 4th—Saturday Rating Tournament—Independence
4SS, G/30. The Plex at Nolan Road Baptist Church, 4505 South Nolan Road, Independence, MO 64055. Registration: 10:00-10:50. Round times: 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45. EF: $5. No prizes-entries go to support the the club. MCA required for Missouri residents. Entries/Info: Onsite or to chess_entries@comcast.net ***Note: There is no Internet service at the playing site, we will NOT be able to process any USCF memberships on site. If you need to purchase or renew a USCF Membership you will need to do so before the tournament and bring a copy of your receipt to give to the TD.*

June 11th—Tigran Petrosian Open—Columbia
3SS, G/75. UMC Memorial Union room S203, 518 Hitt St., Columbia MO. Directions: From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. Reg: 9:30-10:15. Rds: 10:30, 1:15, 4:00. EF: $1. No prizes-Just the satisfaction of playing well. Two rating-equivalent sections if 18+ players. Entries/Info: Charles Ward, 2400 Cimarron Drive, Columbia, MO 65203, 573-443-6685.

June 18 – CCSCSL Super Team Championship – Saint Louis
4SS, G/65. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs. EF: $105 for 3 person team, $90 for 3 person team that are all annual members of the club if registered by 6/17. MCA membership req'd from $5. PF: $1,800 GTD Championship Team-$900, Top Team U4800-$600, Top Team U3900-$300. 1st Place team members qualify for 2012 Club Championship. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 12:30, 3, 5:30. No Half-point byes available. Unrateds will be considered 1200 for prize and pairing purposes. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of $70/night. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. 314-361-CHESS. Additional Info: info@saintlouischessclub.org or visit www.saintlouischessclub.org**.**

June 25th—Kansas City Open—Independence ****Missouri Invitational Qualifier****
4SS, G/75. The Plex at Nolan Road Baptist Church, 4505 South Nolan Road, Independence, MO 64055. Two sections: Open and Reserve (U1600). EF: $20 if postmarked by 6/18, $30 thereafter. (Scholastic players may pay half entry and are eligible for trophy prizes.) Prizes b/40 full entrants: Open $150-1st, $100-2nd, $50-3rd. Reserve $150-1st, $100-2nd, $50-3rd. Trophies to top 2 scholastic players. Registration: 9:00-9:45 am. Round times: 10:00, 1:30, 3:30, 6:30. Maximum one 1/2-pt. bye if declared by Round 1.. MCA required for Missouri residents. Entries/Info: CJ Armenta 12734 Richmond Ave., Grandview, MO 64030. 816-763-4136

July 2nd-3rd— Missouri Class Championships—Columbia ****Missouri Invitational Qualifier****
5SS, G/120; Howard Johnson Inn (formerly Best Western), 3100 I-70 Dr SE, Columbia, MO 65201; Seven Classes: Master/Expert, A, B, C, D, E, Novice (U1000/Unr); Missouri State Championship Plaque to winner of each section! M/X winner receives Invitation to the Missouri Invitational. Players play only those in their own Class. (Small sections

may be combined for pairing purposes. Combined sections use prize pairing in last round) Registration: 8:30-9:30; Round times: Sat-10-2:30-7, Sun-9:30-2 MCA required, O.S.A., available on site. Hotel Rate: $69/night, Free breakfast & Free Wi-Fi w/ hotel room 573-474-6161, mention CHESS. Entries/Info: Bob Howe, 311 E. Walnut, Pacific, MO 65203, Additional Info, Call (636) 234.7928 or email bdhowe@yahoo.com

July 9th— Saint Louis Premiere and Amateur—St. Louis
Missouri Invitational Qualifier (if 25+ entrants)
4SS, G/90. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs. EF: $40, $30 for annual members of the club if registered by 7/22. MCA membership req'd from $5. PF: $1,200 GTD Each Section $225-$150-$100-$75-$50 (1st-5th) Winner of each Section qualifies for 2012 Club Championship. Reg: 8-8:45. Rds: 9, 12:15, 3:45, 7. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of $70/night. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. 314-361-CHESS. Additional Info: info@saintlouischessclub.org or visit the www.saintlouischessclub.org**.**

Kansas Open State Championship—Overland Park Kansas:
The Kansas State Championship is being held in the Kansas City area this year. That makes it a great chance for Missouri players to attend this excellent event. See tournament listing at http://www.kansaschess.org

August 6th—Dog Day's Open—St. Louis
Missouri Invitational Qualifier (if 25+ entrants)
4SS, G/75. Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108. Free entries for GMs and IMs, deducted from earnings. GMs and IMs are not counted toward the based on prize fund total. EF: $35, $30 for annual members of the club if registered by 8/5. MCA membership req'd from $5. PF:(b/40) $1,200: 1st Overall -$250, 2nd Place-$200. $150 for 1st in each class: A, B, C, D, U1200/UNR. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15. Winner qualifies for 2012 Club Championship. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Hotel: Water Tower Inn at 314-977-7500 ask for the "chess rate" of $70/night. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. 314-361-CHESS. Additional Info: info@saintlouischessclub.org or visit www.saintlouischessclub.org**.**

August 6th — Saturday Rating Tournament—Independence
4SS, G/30. The Plex at Nolan Road Baptist Church, 4505 South Nolan Road, Independence, MO 64055. Registration: 10:00-10:50. Round times: 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45. EF: $5. No prizes-entries go to support the the club. MCA required for Missouri residents. Entries/Info: Onsite or to chess_entries@comcast.net ***Note: There is no Internet service at the playing site, we will NOT be able to process any USCF memberships on site. If you need to purchase or renew a USCF Membership you will need to do so before the tournament and bring a copy of your receipt to give to the TD.*

August 27th—Boris Spassky Open—Columbia
SS, G/75. UMC Memorial Union room S203, 518 Hitt St., Columbia MO. Directions: From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. Reg: 9:30-10:15. Rds: 10:30, 1:15, 4:00. EF: $1. No prizes-Just the satisfaction of playing well. Two rating-equivalent sections if 18+ players. Entries/Info: Charles Ward, 2400 Cimarron Drive, Columbia, MO 65203, 573-443-6685.

September 3rd-4th— Saint Louis District Championship—St. Louis

October 8th —CCSCSL 2 on 2 Team Championship—St. Louis

October 28th—30th **The Missouri Chess Festival—Columbia**
The Missouri Open
The Missouri Blitz Championship
The Missouri Quick Championship
The Chess Festival for Kids

Visit www.mochess.org/Tournaments for an up-to-date calendar

Featured Game

~ Al"nalysis" Howlett ~

Longtime player and TD Al Howlett has been sharing his annotations for years on the popular Stlchess.com forums. He now is bringing those efforts to the pages of the MCB. This edition Al brings us his game against the man best known for his initials… K.D.J. Kevin Dale Johnson is an active and popular player all across the state, and he and Al faced off many times over the years.

Modern Benoni
St. Louis Classical Swiss
W: Kevin D. Johnson (2000)
B: Al Howlett (1850)

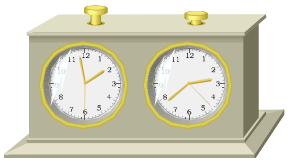
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.d5 exd5 5.cxd5 d6 6.e4 g6 7.f4 Bg7 8.Bb5+ (diagram right) In our Dec-07 game, he continued 8.e5 (Mikenas Attack) when I was hoping for the Taimanov Variation. This time it was the opposite. I looked up at him whispered with a smile, "No e5?". Oddly enough, my 8th move is the best reply to both 8.e5 and 8.Bb5+.

8...Nfd7 9.a4 O-O 10.Nf3 a6 11.Bd3 Nf6 12.O-O Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Nbd7 15.e5?!
Here KDJ leaves book, sacs a pawn, and as he is known to do, takes the game into unchartered and dangerous territory. Developing the dark square bishop to either d2 or e3 is the normal continuation here although a5, Rb1 and Kh1 are also playable.
15...de, 16.f5!?... I took on e5 right away, but I spent about 10 minutes thinking after 16.f5. If I give back the pawn, I'm worse off than before he sac'ed it. If I try and hold it then I'm defending. I finally decided to connect my rooks, agitate his neglect to develop his dark square bishop and threaten c4+. Schredder thinks Qa5 is the strongest move.

16...Qb6. 17.Kh1 Rac8 18.a5 Qc7 (of course if 18....Qb4 19.Ra4 traps the Queen); **19.g4 c4** (best) **20.Be4 Nc5** (best again and black now has an edge) **21.g5 Nh5?**
I made this move rather quickly anticipating f6, then expecting to sacrifice a piece for 2 pawns (to even the material) at the appropriate time. It didn't occur to me that trading off the knights on e4, taking on f5 and then pushing the c-pawn give black a much better (and superior) position; My move gives the edge back to white.
22. f6 Bh8 23.Be3 Nb3 24.Bb6 Qd6 25.Rad1 Nd4 26.Qf2 Qd7 27.Qh2 Nf5 28.Rf3? (and now white's advantage is significantly reduced) **28...Nh4 29.Re3? Nf6?** (h6! would have equalized)

30.gxf Bf6 31.Qf2? (White had several winning moves here; Qg3, Qg1, Rg1, etc.), but now the point starts to slip away)
31...Bg5 32.Rg3 Bf4 33.Rg4 Nf5 34.Rdg1 Nh6 35.Rh4 f5! 36.Bc2 Nf7 37.Be3? (This trade off allows black to equalize yet again)
37...Bxe3 38.Qxe3 Qd8 (black is now trying to make up about a 10 minute deficit as well as feeling some time pressure. Qe7 was best.
39.Qf2 e4 40.Qg3 Ne5 (Qd6 equalizes) **41.Nxe4 fxe 42.Rxe4 Nf7 43.Rg4? Qd5+ 44.Be4 Qd6! 45.Qg2 Ne5!** (and now black is winning)
46.Bxg6? (Hallucination?, Desperation?, Frustration?)
46...hxg 47.Rh4 Qc6 (with a 7 point advantage for black and now a time scramble ensues on both sides. White resigned a few minutes (and about 25 moves or so) later. **0-1**

Recent Games from Missouri Chess Players



Queen's Gambit Declined
Amateur Team East
W: Steven Rand (1922)
B: Alex Betanelli (2304)

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Be7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bf4 c5 6.dxc5 Na6 7.cxd5 exd5 8. e3 Nxc5 9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.O-O O-O 11.Bxd7 Qxd7 12.Rc1 Rfd8 13.Qe2 Rac8 14.Rfd1 a6 15.Rc2 Na4 16.Nxa4 Qxa4 17.b3 Rxc2 18.Qxc2 Qc6 19.Qxc6 bxc6 20.Ne5 Rc8 21.Rc1 c5 22.Bg5 Kf8 23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Nd7+ Ke8 25.Nb6 Rd8 26.Kf1 Rd6 27.Na4 Rc6 28.Nc3 d4 29.exd4 cxd4 30.Ne2 Rxc1+ 31.Nxc1 Kd7 32.Ke2 Ke6 33.Kd3 Kd5 34.Ne2 Bc5 35.Nf4+ Ke5 36.Nh5 Bb6 37.b4 Bd8 38.a4 Be7 39.b5 axb5 40.axb5 Bd8 41.Ng3 Kd5 42.Nf5 Bb6 43.h4 Bc5 44.h5 Bb6 45.Nh6 Ke6 46.Ke4 d3 47.Kxd3 Bxf2 48.Ke4 Kd6 49.Kf5 Bd4 50.Ng8 Kc5 51.Nxf6 h6 52.Ng4 Bg7 53.Ne5 Kxb5 54.Nxf7 Kc5 55.Kg6 Bf8 56.Nxh6 Kd5 57.Nf5 Ke5 58.h6 Bxh6 59.Nxh6 Kf4 60.g4 1-0

English Opening
Amateur Team East
W: Steven Rand (1922)
B: Yuri Fridman (2114)

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 Nxd5 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Nxc3 6.bxc3 Bg7 7.e4 c5 8.Ne2 Nc6 9.O-O O-O 10.Rb1 b6 11.d3 Bb7 12.Be3 Rc8 13.Qd2 Qd7 14.Rfd1 Rfd8 15.Bh6 Bh8 16.Nf4 Ne5 17.Qe2 Bg7 18.Bh3 e6 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.d4 cxd4 21.cxd4 Nc4 22.d5 Qa4 23.dxe6 Ne5 24.exf7 Rxd1+ 25.Qxd1 Qxe4 26.Bg2 Nf3+ 27.Bxf3 Qxf3 28.Ne6+ 1-0

Vienna Game
All Girls Nationals
W: Margaret Hua (1978)
B: Sarah Wong Mun (1449)

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Bc5 3.d3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.Bb3 d6 6.h3 Nc6 7.f4 Nd5 8.Nxd5 Qh4+ 9.Kd2 Nd4 10.Qe1 Nxb3+ 11.axb3 Bf2 12.Qe2 exf4 13.Nf3 Qg3 14.Rf1 Bb6 15.c3 0-0 16.Kc2 Re8 17.Bxf4 Qg6 18.Bg5 Qe6 19.Nxb6 cxb6 20.Be3 d5 21.Ng5 Qc6 22.exd5 Qxd5 23.Rae1 Bf5 24.Qd2 Rad8 25.Bd4 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 Qc6 27.Qe2 h6 28.Nf3 b5 29.g4 Be6 30.Qe5 Rxd4 31.Nxd4 Qd5 32.Nxe6 fxe6 33.Qxe6+ Qxe6 34.Rxe6 Kf7 35.Rb6 g5 36.Rxb7+ Ke6 37.Rb6+ Kd5 38.Rxa6 Kc5 39.h4 gxh4 40.Rxh6 b4 41.cxb4+ Kxb4 42.g5 h3 43.g6 h2 44.Rxh2 Kc5 45.g7 Kd6 46.Rh5 Ke7 47.g8Q Kf6 48.Qg5+ Kf7 49.Rh6 Ke8 50.Qg7 Kd8 51.Rh8# 1-0

French Defense
All Girls Nationals
W: Margaret Hua (1978)
B: Alexandra Botez (1975)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Nf3 Bd6 5.c4 c6 6.Nc3 Ne7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qc2 Bf5 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 dxc4 11.Qxc4 Nd7 12.Qd3 h6 13.0-0-0 Nf6 14.Kb1 Ned5 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.g4 Re8 17.h4 Qf6 18.Bd2 Nf4 19.Qb3 Qg6+ 20.Ka1 Qxg4 21.Rhg1 Qh5 22.Bxf4 Bxf4 23.Rg2 g6 24.Rdg1 Qd5 25.Qxb7 Qe6 26.Qb3 Qxb3 27.axb3 h5 28.Ne1 Re4 29.Nc2 Rb8 30.Ka2 Re2 31.f3 Rbe8 32.Nb4 R2e6 33.Rc2 Be3 34.Rd1 Rd6 Draw. Black had only minutes left. ½-½

Queen's Gambit Declined
All Girls Nationals
W: Cheryl Liu (1492)
B: Margaret Hua (1978)

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.e3 0-0 6.Nf3 b6 7.Qc2 Bb7 8.0-0-0 Nc6 9.Ne5 Na5 10.Bd3 dxc4 11.Nxc4 Nxc4 12.Bxc4 Ne8 13.Bxe7 Qxe7 14.Bd3 g6 15.h4 Bxg2 16.Rh2 Bf3 17.Rg1 Ng7 18.Be4 Bxe4 19.Qxe4 Nh5 20.Qe5 Qd6 21.f4 Qxe5 22.dxe5 Rfd8 23.Rd1 Ng3 24.e4 Rxd1+ 25.Kxd1 Rd8+ 26.Kc2 Rd4 27.Nb5 Rxe4 28.Kd3 Rxf4 29.Ke3 Re4+ 30.Kf3 Rxe5 31.Nxa7 Nf5 32.Nc6 Rc5 33.Nb4 Rc4 34.Na6 Nxh4+ 35.Kg3 Nf5+ 36.Kf3 Kg7 37.Rd2 Nd4+ 38.Ke3 Nf5+ 39.Kf3 h5 40.Rd7 c6 41.Nc7 Nd4+ 42.Ke3 c5 43.b3 Rc2 44.Ne8+ Kh6 45.Rxf7 Rxa2 46.Rb7 Rb2 47.Rxb6 Rxb3+ 48.Rxb3 Nxb3 0-1

Games from the Columbia Open:

1.g3… Irregular Opening
Columbia Open
W: Ron Luther (2204)
B: Tony Dutiel (1904)

1.g3 e5 2.Bg2 d5 3.d3 Ne7 4.a3 Be6 5.Nd2 Nd7 6.c3 c5 7.Ngf3 Nc6 8.b4 d4 9.cxd4 cxb4 10.dxe5 bxa3 11.d4 Qa5 12.0-0 Be7 13.e4 Bg4 14.h3 Bh5 15.Qb3 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Qxe5 17.Qxb7 Rb8 18.Qd5 0-0 19.Bxa3 Rbd8 20.Nc6 Qxd5 21.Nxe7+ Kh8 22.Nxd5 Rfe8 23.Be7 0-1

Closed Sicilian
Columbia Open
W: Nathan Swinger (1999)
B: Ray Bennett (1347)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nd4 4.Bc4 e6 5.Nge2 Nc6 6.0-0 Nf6 7.d4 Nxe4 8.d5 Nxc3 9.Nxc3 Nd4 10.Be3 e5 11.f4 d6 12.fxe5 dxe5 13.Qh5 Qc7 14.d6 Bxd6 15.Bxf7+ Kd8 16.Bg5+ Be7 17.Nd5 Qd6 18.Bxe7+ 1-0

English Opening
Columbia Open
W: King Christian (2045)
B: David Meliti (2013)

1.c4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Nc3 Nb6 6.Nf3 Bg7 7.d3 Nc6 8.Be3 Nd5 9.Bd2 0-0 10.0-0 Nxc3 11.Bxc3 e5 12.Rc1 Be6 13.a3 Rb8 14.b4 Re8 15.Qc2 Bd5

16.e4 Be6 17.b5 Ne7 18.Bxe5 Bxe5 19.Nxe5 Qd6 20.Qxc7 Qxa3 21.Qc5 Qa5 22.Ra1 Qd2 23.Rfd1 Qb2 24.d4 b6 25.Qa3 Qxb5 26.Qxa7 f6 27.Bf1 Qb4 28.Rab1 Qd6 29.Nc4 Bxc4 30.Bxc4+ Kh8 31.Bb5 Nc6 32.Bxc6 Qxc6 33.d5 Qb7 34.Qxb7 Rxb7 35.Rb4 Kg7 36.Rdb1 Kf7 37.f3 Reb8 38.Kf2 Ke7 39.Ke3 b5 40.Kd4 h5 41.f4 g5 42.fxg5 fxg5 43.Rf1 h4 44.Ke5 hxg3 45.hxg3 Re8 46.d6+ Kd7+ 47.Kd5 Rb6 48.Rf7+ Kd8 49.e5 Rg8 50.Kc5 Rb8 51.Rxb5 Rc8+ 52.Kd5 Ke8 53.Re7+ Kf8 54.Rbb7 Rh8 55.Rf7+ Kg8 56.Rg7+ Kf8 57.Rbf7+ Ke8 58.d7+ Kd8 59.dxc8Q+ Kxc8 60.e6 Rd8+ 61.Rd7 Rf8 62.Kc6 Kb8 63.Rb7+ Ka8 64.Ra7+ Kb8 65.Rgb7+ 1-0

Caro Kann Defense
Columbia Open
W: Rohit Rao (1210)
B: Zach Schuh (1375)

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bg5 e6 7.a3 Be7 8.Nf3 Nbd7 9.Bd3 Bg6 10.Bxg6 hxg6 11.Bf4 a6 12.Qd3 c5 13.0-0-0 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Bc5 15.Qd2 Ng4 16.Ne4 Rc8 17.Nxc5 Rxc5 18.h3 Ngf6 19.Be3 Rc8 20.Bg5 Qc7 21.c3 Ne4 22.Qd4 Nef6 23.Qa4 Rd8 24.Rd2 Qc6 25.Qb4 Rc8 26.Rhd1 Qb6 27.Qd4 0-0 28.Bxf6 Nxf6 29.g4 Qc6 30.Ne5 Qd5 31.Qf4 Qe4 32.Qg3 b5 33.f3 Qb7 34.g5 Nd5 35.f4 a5 36.h4 b4 37.axb4 axb4 38.c4 Qa6 39.Rc2 Ne7 40.Qh3 Rfd8 41.Rh1 Qa1# 0-1

King's Indian Defense
Columbia Open
W: Selden Trimble (1997)
B: Rodney Vaughn (1847)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nc3 g6 4.e4 Bg7 5.Be2 Nbd7 6.Nf3 e5 7.0-0 0-0 8.h3 a5 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Qc2 Qe7 11.Be3 Nc5 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.cxd5 Na6 14.Bxa6 Rxa6 15.Bc5 Rd6 16.Qc3 b6 17.Bxd6 cxd6 18.Rac1 f5 19.Nd2 Bh6 20.Rc2 fxe4 21.Nxe4 Bf5 22.Re2 Bc8 23.Rfe1 Ba6 24.Rc2 a4 25.Qc7 Qh4 26.Rc3 Bd2 27.Ree3 Bxe3 28.Rxe3 Bd3 29.g3 1-0

Sicilian Defense
Columbia Open
W: Ken Crumpler (1527)
B: Khin Kyi (1577)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.f4 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bc4 Bg4 6.0-0 e6 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Rxf3 a6 9.a3 Be7 10.f5 d5 11.exd5 exd5 12.Ba2 0-0 13.Ne2 Bd6 14.d3 h6 15.Bf4 Qd7 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.Nf4 Nd4 18.Rf2 Nxf5 19.Nxd5 Nxd5 20.Rxf5 Ne3 21.Rxf7 Rxf7 22.Bxf7+ Kh8 23.Qf3 Nxc2 24.Rc1 Nd4 25.Qe4 Rf8 26.Rf1 b6 27.Bg6 Rxf1+ 28.Kxf1 Qf8+ 29.Kg1 a5 white went on to win in mutual time trouble. **1-0**

Pirc Defense
Columbia Open
W: Paul Cornelison (2000)
B: Michael Jones (1369)

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.dxe5 dxe5 5.Qxd8+ Kxd8 6.Bg5 Be6 7.0-0-0+ Nbd7 8.f4 exf4 9.Nge2 h6 10.Bxf6+ gxf6 11.Nxf4 c6 12.Be2 Bc5 13.Rhf1 Be3+ 14.Kb1 Ke7 15.Nh5 Rag8 16.g4 Bxg4 17.Bxg4 Rxg4 18.Rxd7+ Kxd7 19.Nxf6+ 1-0

Queen's Pawn Opening
Columbia Open
W: Richard Henderson (UNR)
B: Ken Crumpler (1527)

1.d4 g6 2.c4 Bg7 3.Nf3 c5 4.e3 Qa5+ 5.Nc3 e6 6.Be2 Ne7 7.b3 Qxc3+ 8.Bd2 Qb2 9.0-0 Qa3 10.Qc2 Qa6 11.Rad1 b6 12.Bc3 0-0 13.dxc5 bxc5 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qe4 Qb7 16.Qe5+ Kg8 17.Qxc5 Nbc6 18.Ne5 Qb6 19.Qa3 Qb4 20.Qb2 Nxe5 21.Qxe5 Nc6 22.Qf4 Qe7 23.Bf3 Bb7 24.Rd2 Rab8 25.Rfd1 Rfd8 26.Qd6 Qxd6 27.Rxd6 Ne5 28.Be2 Kf8 29.f4 Nc6 30.Rxd7 Rxd7 31.Rxd7 Ke8 32.Rc7 Nd8 33.Kf2 Rc8 34.Rxc8 Bxc8 35.Bf3 Bb7 36.e4 f5 37.Ke3 Bxe4 38.Bxe4 fxe4 39.Kxe4 Ke7 40.b4 Nc6 41.b5 Nb8 42.a4 Kd6 43.Kd4 Nd7 44.a5 Nc5 45.a6 Nd7 46.g3 h6 47.h3 g5 48.fxg5 hxg5 49.c5+ Nxc5 50.b6 Nxa6 51.bxa7 Nc7 52.Ke4 e5 53.h4 gxh4 54.gxh4 Ke6 55.h5 Kf6 56.h6 Kg6 57.Kxe5 Kxh6 58.Kf6 Nd5+ 59.Ke6 Nb6 60.Ke7 Nc8+ ½-½

French Defense
Columbia Open
W: Tony Dutiel (1906)
B: Bob Holliman (2200)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.c4 Bb4+ 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bd3 Nge7 7.Nge2 Bf5 8.cxd5 Qxd5 9.0-0 Qd7 10.d5 Ne5 11.Bb5 c6 12.Qd4 Bxc3 13.Nxc3 cxb5 14.Qxe5 f6 15.Qe2 b4 16.Ne4 Qxd5 17.Ng3 Bd3 18.Rd1 Bxe2 19.Rxd5 Nxd5 20.Nxe2 Kf7 21.Bd2 Rac8 22.Rd1 Rhd8 23.a3 bxa3 24.bxa3 Nc3 25.Nxc3 Rxc3 26.Kf1 Rxa3 27.Ke1 Ra2 0-1

Reti Opening
Columbia Open
W: Rodney Vaughn (1892)
B: Ray Bennett (1347)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d3 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Nf6 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.a4 a5 9.Nc4 Nd7 10.c3 Nde5 11.Ne3 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 Ne5 13.Qd1 f5 14.f4 Nc6 15.Nc4 Be6 16.Ne3 Qd7 17.Nc2 Rad8 18.Be3 fxe4 19.dxe4 Bc4 20.Rf2 e6 21.Na3 Ba6 22.Nb5 Bxb5 23.axb5 Ne7 24.c4 b6 25.Rd2 Qc7 26.Ra3 Rd7 27.Rad3 Rfd8 28.Bh3 Kf7 29.Qg4 Nc8 30.Qxe6+ Kf8 31.Qd5 Ne7 32.Qg5 h6 33.Qg4 Qb7 34.Qf3 Nf5 35.Bxf5 gxf5 36.Rd5 fxe4 37.Qxe4 Kg8 38.Qe6+ Kh8 39.Bf2 Re7 40.Qg6

Rde8 41.f5 Rf8 42.Qxd6 Rf6 43.Qf4 Qc7 44.Qxc7 Rxc7 45.g4 Rf8 46.b3 Re8 47.Kf1 Rb7 48.Rd8 Rb8 49.Rxb8 Rxb8 50.Bg3 Bd4 51.Re2 Rg8 52.h3 h5 53.Re6 hxg4 Black flags **1-0**

English Opening
Columbia Open
W: David Meliti (2013)
B: Frank Whitsell (1848)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Bb4 3.Nd5 Bd6 4.g3 c6 5.Nc3 Bc7 6.d4 d6 7.Nf3 Nd7 8.Qc2 Ngf6 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Ne4 Ba5+ 12.Nfd2 Qg6 13.0-0-0 f5 14.Nb3 Bd8 15.Nc3 0-0 16.h4 a5 17.Kb1 a4 18.Nc1 a3 19.b3 Be7 20.e3 Nf6 21.Nd3 Ng4 22.Bh3 Qf6 23.Rde1 exd4 24.exd4 h5 25.f3 Nh6 26.Nf4 Bd8 27.d5 Ba5 28.Re3 Bb6 29.Rd3 g6 30.Qd2 Nf7 31.Re1 Ne5 32.dxc6 Nxd3 33.Ncd5 Qd4 34.Nxb6 Qxb6 35.Qxd3 Qf2 36.Qd5+ Kg7 37.Re2 Qg1+ 38.Kc2 bxc6 39.Re7+ 1-0

Bird's Opening
Columbia Open
W: Alex Esposito (1851)
B: King Christian (2045)

1.f4 g6 2.Nf3 Bg7 3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.0-0 d6 6.d3 e6 7.c3 Nge7 8.e4 0-0 9.Qe1 b5 10.Be3 b4 11.Qf2 Rb8 12.d4 bxc3 13.bxc3 cxd4 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.cxd4 d5 16.e5 Nf5 17.Bc1 f6 18.Ba3 Rf7 19.g4 Nh6 20.Bd6 Rb6 21.Bc5 Rc6 22.Qg3 Ba6 23.Rf2 fxe5 24.fxe5 Rxf2 25.Kxf2 Qg5 26.h3 Rxc5 27.dxc5 Bxe5 28.Qa3 Bd4+ 29.Kg3 Qe5+ 30.Kf3 Be2# 0-1

Ruy Lopez
Columbia Open
W: Ray Bennett (1275)
B: Gordon Lee (318)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 d6 4.0-0 Be7 5.h3 Nf6 6.d4 exd4 7.Nxd4 Nxe4 8.Nxc6 bxc6 9.Bxc6+ Bd7 10.Bxa8 Qxa8 11.Nd2 0-0 12.Re1 Bf5 13.Nxe4 Bxe4 14.f3 d5 15.fxe4 dxe4 16.Qg4 Bc5+ 17.Be3 Bxe3+ 18.Rxe3 Re8 19.Rae1 Rb8 20.b3 Re8 21.Rxe4 Rxe4 22.Rxe4 g6 23.Re7 f5 24.Qc4+ Kf8 25.Qf7# 1-0

Sicilian Defense
Columbia Open
W: Ashwath Kumar (1549)
B: Ron Luther (2004)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Bb4 7.a3 Bxc3+ 8.bxc3 Qc7 9.Bb2 Nxe4 10.Qd5 Nxf2 11.Kxf2 Qb6+ 12.Kg3 0-0 13.Rb1 Qg6+ 14.Kf2 Qxc2+ 15.Nd2 e4 16.Ke3 Nc6 17.Qb3 Qxb3 18.Nxb3 f5 19.Bc4+ Kh8 20.Rhf1 Ne5 21.Be2 b5 22.g4 d5 23.Nd4 Rb8 24.gxf5 Rf6 25.h4 Bd7 26.Kf4 Ng6+ 27.Kg5 h6+ 28.Kg4 Rbf8 29.c4 Ne5+ 30.Kg3 Nxc4 31.Bxc4 bxc4 32.Ne6 Rc8 33.Bxf6 gxf6 34.Rbd1 Bc6 35.Nf4 c3 36.Nxd5 Bxd5 37.Rxd5 c2 38.Rd2 Rc3+ White flags **0-1**

Scandinavian Defense
Columbia Open
W: Milton Lee (1161)
B: Jacob Amann (1484)

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 c6 5.Nf3 Bf5 6.Bd3 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.0-0 e6 9.Bd2 Qb6 10.Na4 Qc7 11.Qe2 Nf6 12.Qe5 Bd6 13.Qe2 Bf4 14.Bxf4 Qxf4 15.Qe5 Qxe5 16.Nxe5 Nbd7 17.Nxd7 Kxd7 18.Nc5+ Kc7 19.g4 Bg6 20.Bxg6 hxg6 21.Kg2 Nd5 22.Kg3 g5 23.Nd3 Rad8 24.Rh1 f6 25.Rae1 Rde8 26.Re2 b6 27.Rhe1 27...Kd7 28.c4 Nf4 29.Nxf4 gxf4+ 30.Kxf4 Rxh3 31.d5 e5+ 32.Ke4 cxd5+ 33.Kxd5 Rd3+ 34.Ke4 Rd4+ 35.Kf5 Rxc4 36.Rd1+ Ke7 37.Re4 Rec8 38.Rde1 Rc2 39.f4 Rxb2 40.Ra4 a5 41.fxe5 Rc5 42.Kg6 Rxe5 43.Rxe5+ fxe5 44.Kxg7 Rg2 45.Kh6 Kf6 46.Kh7 Kg5 47.Re4 Rxa2 48.Rxe5+ Kxg4 49.Rb5 a4 50.Rxb6 Kf3 51.Kg6 Ke3 52.Kf5 Kd3 53.Ke5 a3 54.Kd5 [54.Ra6 Kc3 55.Ke4 Ra1 56.Kf3 Kb2 57.Rb6+ Ka2 58.Ke2 Rb1 59.Rc6 Kb3 60.Rb6+ Kc2 61.Rc6+ Kb2 62.Rb6+ Ka1 63.Rc6 a2 64.Kd3 Kb2 65.Rb6+ Kc1 66.Rc6+ Kd1 67.Rh6 Rb3+] 54...Rb2 55.Ra6 a2 56.Ra3+ Kc2 0-1

Sicilian Gran Prix
Columbia Open
W: Nathaniel Miller (1282)
B: David Meliti (1978)

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.f4 d5 4.Bb5+ Nc6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.Nf3 Ba6 7.d3 d4 8.Ne2 Qa5+ 9.Qd2 Qb6 10.0-0 Nf6 11.h3 g6 12.Qe1 Bg7 13.Qh4 Nxe4 14.f5 exf5 15.dxe4 Bxe2 16.Re1 d3 17.Be3 Bxf3 18.exf5 0-0 19.Bh6 c4+ 20.Kh1 Bxg2+ 21.Kxg2 Qxb2 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qxc4 Qxc2+ 24.Qxc2 dxc2 25.Rac1 Rfe8 26.Rxe8 Rxe8 27.Rxc2 gxf5 28.Rxc6 Re2+ 29.Kf3 Rxa2 0-1

Sicilian Defense
Columbia Open
W: Tony Cheng (1864)
B: King Christian (2045)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb5 d6 6.N1c3 a6 7.Na3 b5 8.Nd5 Nge7 9.c3 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Bb7 11.Qd1 Be7 12.Bd3 0-0 13.0-0 Na5 14.Nc2 Nc4 15.b3 Nb6 16.Ne3 g6 17.Ng4 d5 18.Qf3 f6 19.Nh6+ Kh8 20.h4 dxe4 21.Bxe4 Bxe4 22.Qxe4 Qd5 23.Qe2 Rad8 24.Be3 Qe6 25.Ng4 Nd5 26.Rac1 f5 27.Nh2 Bxh4 28.Nf3 Be7 29.Bd4 Bf6 30.Bxe5 Bxe5 31.Qxe5+ Qxe5 32.Nxe5 Nf4 33.Rc2 ½-½

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Jialin Ding

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-Mikhail Botvinnik

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